

most important centre of Economics and Political Science in the world. In this decade even the School premises have engendered their own myth—that in the buildings of the School of Economics the concrete is never allowed to set!"

To-day, the London School of Economics is one of the greater institutions of the Metropolis, to which students come, not only from all over Britain, but from all over the world. It has close on three thousand students, at its day and evening classes and lectures, and its professoriate numbers over a hundred (and enjoys the benefit of a most ingenious Family Endowment Fund). Its library of books and pamphlets on economic and sociological subjects is unique. Its income and expenditure approach £100,000

per annum, it has buildings and contents worth over half a million, free of debt, endowments and capital grants equal in capital value to a million sterling.

This rise was gradual and steady. The School, as its founder states, was happy in its heads but the consistent

support, the unwearying service, the steady "drive"

put behind it by the Webbs has been the indispensable element in its irresistible growth. Later students may well look

up to their portraits (in the group painted by William

Nicholson, that hangs in the Founders' Room) with something of awe. For many years, Sidney Webb was Professor

(unpaid) of Public Administration at the school, it was

at one of his lectures that the unprecedented spectacle was

witnessed of the entire audience rising to their feet at the

close to deliver round upon round of spontaneous applause.

That applause may well be echoed by
Londoners, when
they stop to realise what the child of its mean
streets has
done for their and his city In the long
catalogue of the
work done, and the service tendered, by the
Webbs to
those who come after them, there is none
brighter than
this Why have they not been gi\en the
Freedom of the
City? There would be an honour, genuinely
appropriate.